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OF COUNSEL
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February 28, 1997

Mr. William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

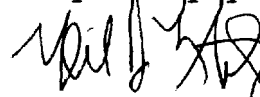
Re: In the matter of
Closed Captioning and Video Description of Programming
Implementation of Section 305 of the Telecommunications
Act of 1996
Video Programming Accessibility
MM Docket No. 95-176

Dear Mr. Caton:

Enclosed for filing is an original and nine copies of the following:

- ✓ 1. Reply Comments of the City of Lincoln Park, Michigan Cable Commission in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.
2. Reply Comments of DATV, Dayton Access Television, in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Very truly yours,



Neil J. Lehto

NJL:rb
Enclosures

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February 28, 1997

No. of Copies rec'd 0+9
List ABCDE



City of Lincoln Park

1355 SOUTHFIELD
LINCOLN PARK, MICHIGAN 48146

TELEPHONE
1-313-386-1800

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20554

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In the Matter of

Closed captioning and Video)	
Description of Programming)	MM Docket No. 95-176
)	
Implementation of Section 305 of)	
the Telecommunications Act of 1996)	

Video Programming Accessibility

R E P L Y

COMMENTS OF THE LINCOLN PARK CABLE COMMISSION IN THE NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

THE LINCOLN PARK CABLE COMMISSION respectfully submits the following comments in response to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, in the above proceeding, released January 17, 1997 ("NPRM"). The Commission seeks to issue rules implementing Section 713 of the 1996 Communications Act.

THE LINCOLN PARK CABLE COMMISSION is a member of the Alliance for Community Media, a national membership organization comprised of more than thirteen communities, connected with public, educational and governmental ("PEG") access on cable television systems. PEG centers throughout the nation produce more than 20,000 hours of original programming per week; this is more than CBS, NBC, ABC, and PBS combined.

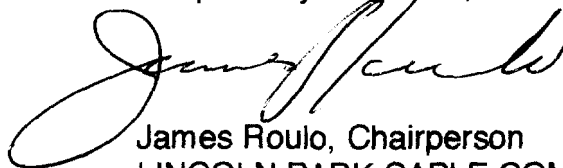
PEG access centers would welcome the opportunity to present programming accessible to blind and deaf audiences. We believe that cable operators, the U.S. Department of Education, other governmental entities, or private funds and foundations may provide an appropriate source for funding. However, requiring PEG access centers to shoulder the financial and administrative burden of providing or requiring that every program be closed-captioned would mean the end of PEG access for deaf and non-deaf viewers alike. THE LINCOLN PARK CABLE COMMISSION urges the Commission to exempt PEG access centers from any blanket closed-captioning requirements, or, in the alternative, to identify and provide for alternate funding sources to allow some PEG programming to be made available to deaf audiences.

Both cost and the unique nature of public access programming prevent PEG centers from regularly providing closed captioning services. THE LINCOLN PARK CABLE COMMISSION'S total budget for 1997 is \$40,000.00, which covers all salaries, administrative expenses, capital purchases and overhead costs (see attached documentation). The Commission has suggested that closed-captioning a program may be conservatively priced at \$2,500.00 per program-hour. If closed-captioning were required, THE LINCOLN PARK CABLE COMMISSION could caption only 16 hours of programming per year, with no funds left over for salaries, equipment and expenses. (City Council meetings **alone** equal 104 hours per year.)

Moreover, PEG centers generally do not produce their own programming; instead, program producers are generally either individuals or small, non-profit organizations working with volunteer personnel. Placing responsibility for closed-captioning on access program producers is not realistic. Requiring, for example, public high schools' educational access distance learning-GED programs to close-caption could cause most school districts to cease offering these programs entirely. Requiring that PEG volunteer producers close-caption their programming at their own expense would contradict the purpose of PEG access, converting free access into access at \$2,500.00 per hour. Mandatory closed-captioning would effectively **eliminate** PEG cable casting in America.

We strongly support the rights of deaf viewers to have access to PEG access programming. However, we must ask the Commission to require captioning only when an outside funding source makes such captioning financially possible.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Roulo", written over the typed name.

James Roulo, Chairperson
LINCOLN PARK CABLE COMMISSION
1355 Southfield Rd.
Lincoln Park, Michigan 48146
(313) 386-6036

LINCOLN PARK CABLE COMMISSION

FISCAL YEAR '95 - '96

REVENUE	\$42,847.34
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EXPENDITURES	\$28,865.98
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Check Register

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CABLE
2/19/97

Date	Num	Transaction	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
7/ 7 1995	11257	Tom Murphy May 95 Contract Worker	100.00	X		85,694.72
7/ 7 1995	11258	Vic Grasso May 95 Contract Worker	150.00	X		85,544.72
7/14 1995	11264	Ameritech Cellular phone charges	38.87	X		85,505.85
7/14 1995	11265	O'Reilly, Rancilio, Netz, Andre May & June services	204.00	X		85,301.85
7/14 1995	11266	Dayton Television Service Repair 2 TV sets-Comm. Center	130.00	X		85,171.85
7/31 1995	je 7	Jly Off supp	2.90	X		85,168.95
8/ 4 1995	11292	Wescott Communications Subscription American Heat	936.00	X		84,232.95
8/ 4 1995	11293	Best Buy Co., Inc Camcorder w/case, tapes	930.02	X		83,302.93
8/ 4 1995	11294	Thomas Murphy Ran camera for July 1995	80.00	X		83,222.93
8/ 4 1995	11295	Vic Grasso ran camera for July 1995	100.00	X		83,122.93
8/ 4 1995	11296	Ameritech monthly billing	54.19	X		83,068.74
8/11 1995	11319	Don Bilinski edit DARE golf outing	400.00	X		82,668.74
8/25 1995	11384	Norm Rushing clean/rpr vcr	36.34	X		82,632.40
8/25 1995	11385	A.B.C. Warehouse purchase battery for camcorder	69.95	X		82,562.45
8/25 1995	11386	O'Reilly, Ranchilio, Nitz, Andrews attorney fees	45.50	X		82,516.95
8/31 1995	je 19	Aug Postage	2.52	X		82,514.43
9/ 1 1995	11389	O'Reilly, Rancilio, Nitz, Andrews & balance due	1.60	X		82,512.83

10/13 1995	11461	O'Reilly, Rancillo, Nitz, Andre September services	260.00	X	100,446.31
10/13 1995	11462	Century Telecommunications Serv for "Needs Assessmnt" survey	630.00	X	99,816.31
10/27 1995	11470	Muzak Repair of Council Chamers sys.	195.00	X	99,621.31

Check Register

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CABLE
2/19/97

Date	Num	Transaction	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
0/31 1995	je 40	Oct Off Supp	0.55	X		99,620.76
0/31 1995	je 43	Oct Postage	0.64	X		99,620.12
1/ 9 1995	11523	Ameritech Cellular phone charges	24.46	X		99,595.66
1/ 9 1995	11524	Working Fire Training series for Fire Dept.	761.00	X		98,834.66
1/ 9 1995	11525	Tom Murphy October 95 contract worker	150.00	X		98,684.66
1/ 9 1995	11526	Vic Grasso October contract worker	185.00	X		98,499.66
1/ 9 1995	11530	Don Bilinski void		X		98,499.66
1/ 9 1995	11531	John C. Quale void and Senior Citizens Tower		X		98,499.66
1/ 9 1995	11532	Don Bilinski	110.00	X		98,389.66
1/ 9 1995	11533	John C. quale Invoice #7430	500.00	X		97,889.66
1/17 1995	11535	O'reilly,Rancilio,Nitz, Andrews Attorney fees	349.60	X		97,540.06
1/17 1995	11536	Thalner Electronic Labs Inc. Purchase of vidwo tapes #154073	261.00	X		97,279.06
1/30 1995	je 51	nov postage	2.11	X		97,276.95
1/ 1 1995	11547	Ameritech	45.25	X		97,231.70

1996	January '96 contract worker		
2/ 9 11657 1996	Don Bilinski	210.00 X	94,326.50
2/ 9 11658 1996	Dayton Television Service Repair of VCR	65.00 X	94,261.50
2/16 11669 1996	O'Reilly, Rancilio, Nitz, Andre January Services	90.00 X	94,171.50
2/16 11670 1996	Dayton Television Service Repair VCR	30.00 X	94,141.50
2/28 1996	je109 Feb Off Supp	1.62 X	94,139.88
3/ 1 11695 1996	Vic Grasso contract worker for Feb 1996	150.00 X	93,989.88

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CABLE
2/19/97

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Date	Num	Transaction	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
3/ 1 1996	11696	Tom Murphy contract worker for Feb. 1996	125.00	X		93,864.88
3/ 2 1996		TCI Great Lakes Access Fees		X	21,733.34	115,598.22
3/ 8 1996	11704	AT&T Cellular Long Distance chg.	1.11	X		115,597.11
3/ 8 1996	11705	Ameritech Cellular phone charges	24.10	X		115,573.01
3/15 1996	11724	N.A.T.O.A. 1996 membership dues	330.00	X		115,243.01
3/22 1996	11730	Inacomp Computer Center Invoice 53907	2,843.00	X		112,400.01
3/22 1996	11738	Don Bilinski	147.50	X		112,252.51
3/29 1996	11739	Vic Grasso March contract worker	125.00	X		112,127.51
3/29 1996	11740	Tom Murphy March contract worker	100.00	X		112,027.51
3/29	11741	Radio Shack	74.27	X		111,953.24

1996		Attorney for Cable Comm.			
5/17 1996	11809	Ameritech Cellular phone charges	24.10	X	105,531.53
5/17 1996	11821	Jim Roulo crew on 5/19/96	100.00	X	105,431.53
5/28 1996		Henry Ford Comm Coll. Reimb Excess Tuition		X	865.08 106,296.61
5/28 1996		Edward Zelenak Reimb for copies of tapes		X	5.00 106,301.61
5/30 1996	je151	Safety Town Donation	500.00	X	105,801.61
5/30 1996	je155	May Office Supplies	2.00	X	105,799.61
5/30 1996	je159	May Postage	0.32	X	105,799.29
5/31 1996	11833	Tom Murphy May Contract worker	100.00	X	105,699.29
5/31 1996	11834	Vic Grasso May Contract worker	200.00	X	105,499.29
5/31 1996	11835	Adam Knapik in error.	865.08	X	104,634.21

Check Register

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CABLE
2/19/97

Date	Num	Transaction	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
5/31 1996	11836	Dayton TV Repair video recorder	45.00	X		104,589.21
5/31 1996	11837	Don Bilinski Ecorse Creek Video	550.00	X		104,039.21
6/ 7 1996	11843	Ameritech Cellular phone charges	3.50	X		104,035.71
6/ 7 1996	11844	AT&T Cellular-Long distance chg.	0.84	X		104,034.87
6/ 7 1996	11845	Thalner Electronic Labs Inc Invoice #160238	295.38	X		103,739.49
6/14	11859	Sam's Club	479.90	X		103,259.59

Check Register

CABLE
2/19/97

Page 1

Date	Num	Transaction	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
6/21 1996	11868	Keystone Learning Systems Corp training videos/inv.1068724	329.90	X		101,867.39
6/21 1996	11869	Adam Knapic & Henry Ford Com Co Scholorship	1,500.00	X		100,367.39
6/21 1996	11870	Don Bilinski payment to contract workers	260.00	X		100,107.39
6/28 1996	11878	Careertrack Publications Down" with workbook	80.90	X		100,026.49
6/28 1996	11879	Vic Grasso June '96 Contract worker	125.00	X		99,901.49
6/28 1996	11880	Tom Murphy June '96 contract worker	100.00	X		99,801.49
6/30 1996	je 27	June Xerox	28.80	X		99,772.69
6/30 1996	je272	June Postage	0.64	X		99,772.05
6/30 1996	je281	June Office Supplies	1.47	X		99,770.58
6/30 1996	MC	Reimb D. Bilinski Adv for parade		X	5.50	99,776.08